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THE RECENT PROGRESS AND PRESENT CONDITIONS OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY[1]

FIFTY years ago, or even less, a very satisfactory and comprehensive text-book or manual of economic zoology could have been contained within the covers of a single volume of reasonable size. So great have been the advances, however, of late years, that the books and pamphlets published would in themselves make a small-sized library. The whole civilized world has contributed to the advance of economic zoology, and in its many directions it has greatly improved the condition of the human species.

It seems to be generally acknowledged that the greatest strides in one of its branches, namely, economic entomology, have been made in America, and therefore it has been thought appropriate at this American meeting to choose an economic entomologist to give the principal address, and to take economic entomology as his particular subject.

Thirteen years ago, in August, 1894, the present speaker delivered an address as retiring president of the Association of Economic Entomologists, in which he took as his subject, "The Rise and Present Condition of Official Economic Entomology." In this address (published in *Insect Life*, volume 7, pages 55 to 108) the early history of the warfare against insects was briefly discussed, the progress through the

[1] Principal address, Section of Economic Zoology, Seventh International Zoological Congress, Boston, August, 1907. Read August 23, 1907.